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CLAIMS:

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1. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which has at least 85% identity to the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 respectively.
2. An isolated polypeptide as claimed in claim 1 in which the amino acid sequence has at least 95% identity to the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 respectively.
3. The polypeptide as claimed in claim 1 comprising the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4.
4. An isolated polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4.
5. A polypeptide comprising an immunogenic fragment of the polypeptide as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4 in which the immunogenic fragment is capable of raising an immune response which recognises the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4.
6. A polypeptide according to claim 5 wherein the immunogenic fragment is coupled to a carrier.
7. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide that has at least 85% identity to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, 4 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:2, 4 respectively; or a nucleotide sequence complementary to said isolated polynucleotide.

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8. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence that has at least 85% identity to a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2, 4 over the entire coding region; or a nucleotide sequence complementary to said isolated polynucleotide.
9. An isolated polynucleotide which comprises a nucleotide sequence which has at least 85% identity to that of SEQ ID NO:1, 3 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:1, 3 respectively; or a nucleotide sequence complementary to said isolated polynucleotide.
10. The isolated polynucleotide as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 9 in which the identity is at least 95% to SEQ ID NO:1, 3.
11. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4.
12. An isolated polynucleotide comprising the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3.
13. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4 obtainable by screening an appropriate library under stringent hybridization conditions with a labeled probe having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3 or a fragment thereof.
14. An expression vector or an isolated live microorganism comprising a recombinant polynucleotide according to any one of claims 7 to 13.
15. A host cell comprising the expression vector of claim 14 or a subcellular fraction or a membrane of said host cell expressing an isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence that has at least 85% identity to the amino

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acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4.

16. A process for producing a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence that has at least 85% identity to the amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of: SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4 comprising culturing a host cell of claim 15 under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide and recovering the polypeptide from the culture medium.

17. A process for expressing a polynucleotide of any one of claims 7 to 14 comprising transforming a host cell with the expression vector comprising at least one of said polynucleotides and culturing said host cell under conditions sufficient for expression of any one of said polynucleotides.

18. A vaccine composition comprising an effective amount of the polypeptide of any one of claims 1 to 6 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19. A vaccine composition comprising an effective amount of the polynucleotide of any one of claims 7 to 13 and a pharmaceutically effective carrier.

20. The vaccine composition according to either one of claims 18 or 19 wherein said composition comprises at least one other *Neisseria meningitidis* antigen.

21. An antibody immunospecific for the polypeptide or immunological fragment as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6.

22. A method of diagnosing a *Neisseria meningitidis* infection, comprising identifying a polypeptide as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, or an antibody

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that is immunospecific for said polypeptide, present within a biological sample from an animal suspected of having such an infection.

23. Use of a composition comprising an immunologically effective amount of a polypeptide as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6 in the preparation of a medicament for use in generating an immune response in an animal.

24. Use of a composition comprising an immunologically effective amount of a polynucleotide as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 13 in the preparation of a medicament for use in generating an immune response in an animal.

25. A therapeutic composition useful in treating humans with *Neisseria meningitidis* disease comprising at least one antibody directed against the polypeptide of claims 1 to 6 and a suitable pharmaceutical carrier.

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